

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO SISTER JANE
FRANCES BRADY, SC

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 1995

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual who has dedicated her life to serving others. Sister Jane Frances Brady, SC, brings comfort to those she touches through Healing the Children, a remarkable, service-oriented organization committed to the donation of medical resources to those who cannot afford the attention they need.

All over the world millions of families use the little money they have to buy just enough food to survive; they cannot afford normal medical expenses. In the most underdeveloped countries, children who need care go untreated because of a lack of resources or funding to afford the little care that is available. Families suffer unthinkable pain, and children are the victims in this tragedy.

Sister Jane Frances Brady, SC, the president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center is a recipient of numerous awards from professional and civic organizations for her dedication to helping the needy. However, her commitment to Healing the Children proves what the giving of ones self really accomplishes. Healing the Children has sent her to foreign countries where she has served on medical teams helping children who are suffering as a result of a lack of medical resources. As a part of Healing the Children, Sister Jane has also opened the doors of St. Joseph's to sick and needy children from around the world.

Through the work of Sister Jane Frances Brady, SC, and the organization, Healing the Children, families are given the attention they need to help them stay in good health. This group of caring medical professionals seeks out children in need, recruits the medical personnel and provides loving support. The Healing the Children medical teams share their knowledge with the host country's medical personnel, in hopes that one day these trips will not be necessary. At both home and abroad, Healing the Children also flies children to hospitals where they will receive the best possible treatment for their ailment.

Through the caring leadership of executive director and founder Evelyn Dudziec, this organization has performed these important missions for more than a decade. Mrs. Dudziec works out of a small office in her home in Kinnelon, NJ where she oversees the management of Healing the Children. She is also a member of Concerned Persons for Adoption and the Spina Bifida Parent Support Group. As a volunteer chairperson of the Fresh Air fund of northern New Jersey, a member of the Vietnamese Refugee Program and a host to 48 children through Healing the Children since 1981, Evelyn opens her heart to those less fortunate. Together with Sister Jane Frances

Brady, SC, they serve as a rare and special reminder of what one person can accomplish in this small world.

MARYVILLE ACADEMY—AN OASIS
OF HOPE FOR ORPHANS

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 7, 1995

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, policy makers have been discussing the merits of orphanages within the concept of foster care and the need to restore the family in our society.

R. Bruce Dold, the Pulitzer Prize winning deputy editorial page editor for the Chicago Tribune, has written an excellent article for Notre Dame magazine, Summer 1995 edition on Maryville, a "home of last resort." I am extremely proud of Maryville, which is located in my district, and of Father John Smyth, the academy's director.

Mr. Dold's article deserves a wide audience and I am pleased to commend it to my colleagues:

[From the Notre Dame Magazine, Summer 1995]

A PLACE TO CALL MY OWN

(By R. Bruce Dold)

He was a real wisenheimer, as they called it in those days, a cigar-smoking, card-playing, suspenders-and-fedora kid, and if he didn't straighten out quick, why, "he'd turn out to be a 5-and-10 mug." That's what his older brother said. That's the reason Whitey Marsh had to go to the orphanage.

Oh, it wasn't easy at first. The kid ran away, but the sound of the lunch bell brought him back on the double. And when his brother robbed the bank and Whitey wouldn't spill the beans, it looked dark.

But Whitey was a good egg after all, and when he explained everything, how he was just trying to help his own flesh and blood, they let him go. And he was elected the mayor of Boys Town.

His father took off when he heard Tony Kohl was born. His mother was a drunk who beat him and burned him, and when he was 5 and his brother was 2, she dumped them both outside a child welfare office in Chicago.

They were adopted, but the new parents grew fearful of Tony as he got older. They said he was violent and emotionally unstable, that he hit his brother and other kids. When he was 10, they dropped him at an orphanage and tried to make sure he'd never see his brother again.

The child welfare officials wouldn't let him stay at the orphanage. They put him in a foster home. But he lured some of the younger kids into sex games, and the foster parents got rid of him. The officials put him in a psychiatric hospital, and after four months they placed him in another foster home. He set that one on fire, earning himself another trip to a hospital.

He went through a dozen foster homes, each time getting in trouble and getting kicked out. So they shipped him to a place in Arizona he describes as "a prison," and he hated it.

Finally, a year ago, he was sent to Maryville Academy, the 112-year-old children's home in Des Plaines, Illinois, run by Father John Smyth '57. After a failed adoption and a dozen foster homes and two psychiatric hospitals and one "prison," he's finally, at age 16, found a place that won't kick him out or lock him up. He's not the mayor of Maryville, but he's doing okay.

When House Speaker Newt Gingrich raised the prospect of removing unwed teenage mothers from welfare and allowing states to use the saved money to open orphanages, he stepped into a quietly raging war among those who make it their business to look after abused and neglected children.

When First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton slammed the Gingrich proposal as "unbelievable and absurd," it appeared to be one more clash of partisan politics. Actually, the public was getting its first glimpse of that war among child-care experts.

Gingrich's suggestion that the naysayers watch the 1938 movie Boys Town to get an idea of what he had in mind was cockeyed. Whitey Marsh, the mug-to-mayor character played by Mickey Rooney, is as much like Tony Kohl as The Great Train Robbery is like Star Wars. But in a sense he probably didn't grasp, Gingrich was on to something.

The United States is currently the de facto parent for nearly half a million abused and neglected children, and the number is growing at a dizzying rate. The nation doesn't know what to do with all these kids, or with scores more who are on the way.

The revival of the orphanage is an unhappy, but utterly unavoidable, choice. The experts just aren't willing to admit it.

They held a roast last year for John Smyth, but nobody could think of anything particularly snide to say about him. The best line came from Chicago Police Superintendent Matt Rodriguez, who claimed that the good father held the Notre Dame record for most fouls in a varisty basketball game.

In a town that routinely chews up and spits out public figures, Smyth, 62, is regarded as an uncommon savior.

He was a 6-foot, 5-inch center and team captain at Notre Dame when the 1956-57 basketball team placed third in the Midwest Regional of the NCAA tournament. He was picked in the first round of the National Basketball Association draft by the Saint Louis Hawks, but after barnstorming for 30 games with a group of college stars picked to play against the Harlem Globetrotters, he gave up basketball to enter Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary in Chicago and, in 1962, the priesthood.

He knew nothing at all about Maryville when he was assigned there, fresh out of the seminary, but he thought he could hack it for a few years. The place hadn't changed much since 1983, when it opened as Saint Mary's Training School, an outgrowth of a Chicago orphanage started a dozen years earlier to care for children orphaned by the Great Chicago Fire.

In the 1920s, Maryville housed as many as 1,200 children during a flu epidemic, and that many again during the Great Depression of the 1930s. But its fate was tied to changes in the nation's child-welfare policies, and in the early 1970s it nearly closed.

Today there are 276 kids on the campus, a third of them girls. None of the 276 is a Whitey Marsh.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.